Grievances of the Employees of the State Bank of Indore

1189. SHRI GOVIND RAM MIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received by the Ministry incharge Public Grievances and Pensions from Members of Parliament during the period from the 01.11.1995 to 30.03.1996 regarding grievances of the employees of the State Bank of Indore;

(b) the nature of grievances and the action taken by Government in the matter;

(c) the response of the Bank in the matter and whether the grievances have been removed to the satisfaction of employees;and

(d) if not, what further action is proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Only one letter from Shri Ram Badan, M.P. relating to harassment of an employee of the State Bank of Indore, Janak Puri Branch, New Delhi has been received on 16.01.1996.

(b) to (d) It has been alleged that the employee Shri C.L. Verma is being harassed by the Union leaders who have been transferred to this Branch, with the intent of harassing him because Shri Verma was instrumental in pointing out cases of corruption by some officers of the bank. An interim reply has been sent to the Hon'ble M.P. on 06.03.1996. A report has been called for from the Bank and the matter is in process.

Agreements in the Power sector with Private entrepreneurs in Gujarat

1190. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agreements entered with private entrepreneurs in the power sector in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the details of power projects undertaken and completed so far; and

(c) the details of the ongoing projects in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) Gujarat Electricity Board have signed power purchase agreements with M/s Gujarat Torrent Energy Corporation Ltd. for their 655 MW project near Bharuch and with M/s Essar Power Limited for 300 MW out of their 515 MW project near Hazira. Both the projects are under execution. Three units of gas turbine each of 110 MW capacity of the 515 MW power project of M/s Essar Power Ltd. have been commissioned. Work on waste heat recovery plant of 185 MW capacity is under progress and is programmed for completion during the current year.

Import of Petroleum products by PSUs

1191. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of petroleum products including HSD, SKO, ATF, Fuel Oil, Crude Oil and LPG, imported by the PSUs during the last two years;

(b) the break-up of these commodities imported on F.O.B. basis and on CIF basis; and

(c) what preventive and penal action has been taken by Government to prevent violation of Government rules regarding import on F.O.B. basis and export on CIF basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Import quantity of crude oil and Major Petroleum Products are as under:

(Quantity in MMT)

	1994-95 (Provisional)			1995-96 (Provisional)		
	FOB	C&F	TOTAL	FOB	C&F	TOTAL
Crude			27.349			27.342
HSD	3.006	5.599	8.605	4.615	9.091	12.706
SKO	1.219	2.670	3.889	1.308	3.179	4.487
ATF	0.027	—	0.027	0.055	0.042	0.097
FO	—	0.150	0.150	0.315	0.881	1.196
LPG	0.175	0.422	0.597	0.237	0.446	0.683
Lube & Additive	—	0.083	0.083	—	0.058	0.058
AV gas	—	0.002	0.002	—	0.004	0.004
Paraffin wax	—	0.020	0.020	—	0.0004	0.0004
MS	—	—	—	0.134	0.301	0.435
Total Petroleum Product	4.427	8.946	13.373	6.664	13.0024	19.6664

(c) All crude oil imports are arranged only on FOB basis except for sweet crude oils from Nigeria and Australia. Majority of the imports of petroleum products from foreign National Oil Companies under term contracts are arranged on FOB basis. Imports from open market are arranged by issuing tenders to registered parties. On receipt of offers TRANSCHART is approached to advise us the availability of suitable vessels and firm freight rates thereof for the FOB offers received. The FOB offers are evaluated based on the freight advised by TRANSCHART and are accepted if found economical. Government have allowed export of petroleum poducts on FOB basis.

Failure of ONGC oil search in West Bengal

1192. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rs. 600 crore ONGC oil search in West Bengal fails for poor method" appearing in the Financial express, Calcutta, dated the 22nd April, 1996;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, especially with regard to the allegations about a section of ONGC officials coming in the way of Soviet Seismic Party's plan of action in Bengal Basin;

(c) the major inference drawn by Kingston's preliminary report on geological prospectivity of the Bengal Basin; and

(d) by when is the Kingston's report likely to be made public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allegation that a section of ONGC officials came in the way of Soviet Seismic Party's plan of action in Bengal Basin, is without any basis.

(c) The major inferences of Mr. John Kingston's report on the Bengal Basin areas are:

(i) Additional 2D & 3D seismic data acquisition in some areas. These are planned to be acquired during 1996-97.

(ii) Review and re-interpretation of existing data.

(iii) Further exploratory drilling may be taken up only after firming up of highest quality prospects. In any case, no drilling is recommended atleast for three years.